

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved setting for gem or synthetic stones for providing a self-centering ~~temporary or~~ permanent set for an inside bezel setting comprising:

a housing for receiving a stone in an inside bezel mounting that includes a cylindrical passage having a smooth cylindrical surface interior sized in diameter to receive a stone of substantially the same diameter regardless of its cut or shape;

a spring substantially ~~annular~~ cylindrical in shape and having a slight opening allowing a certain amount of radial compression of the spring reducing its diameter, said spring being sized to be slightly larger in diameter than the inside diameter of said stone receiving housing passage and having a smooth exterior surface;

said gemstone housing forming a an inside bezel including a narrowed circular passage conical in shape with one end face of the housing passage at the inside end of the housing passage having a diameter smaller than the diameter of the gem or the passage;

a stone including a body portion that is annular and shaped to abut the interior housing passage narrowed annular area exposing the upper face of the stone from the housing in an inside bezel setting; and

said spring being positioned and mounted at a desired ~~location~~ depth inside said housing passage so to engage ~~and engaging~~ said stone to prevent said stone from being removed from said housing.

2. (Currently Amended) A gem setting as in claim 1, including:

said gem housing including at least one ~~a pair of~~ countersunk bendable ~~prongs~~ prong mounted near the bottom perimeter of said housing cylindrical interior passage and sized to engage a portion of said cylindrical spring to lock permanently in position and engage said stone inside said setting.

3. (Original) An improved stone setting as in claim 1 wherein:

said stone can be round, oval, or pear shaped, either faceted or cabochon and is either a gem or a synthetic stone.

4. (Currently Amended) An improved article of jewelry that includes a jewelry stone and an article of jewelry having a metal housing for providing an inside bezel setting comprising:

jewelry housing ~~means~~ for housing a stone, said jewelry housing including that includes a cylindrical smooth interior passage;

~~means~~ stone mount for retaining said stone in said jewelry housing cylindrical smooth interior passage that includes an insertable cylindrical spring having a smooth exterior surface that can be mounted at a desired depth of said housing passage, said depth being determined to accommodate the different crown-pavilion angles, girdle thickness and diameter differences that change with different stones in said passage using the compression resilience of said cylindrical spring and engaged against the stone for holding the stone in the passage;

~~means of said passage~~ bezel lip for preventing said stone from passing all the way through said passage exposing the top surface of the stone; and

~~means~~ at least one prong for fastening said cylindrical spring in said housing to prevent the removal of said spring.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of creating an inside bezel mounting in an article of jewelry for use with either gem or synthetic stones comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting an article of jewelry and providing a ~~generally~~ smooth cylindrical passage through a portion of said gem housing;
- (b) creating a gem housing restricted annular ~~area~~ bezel lip smaller than the gem size to be inserted at one end of said gem stone housing in conjunction in forming a part of the passage through said gem housing;
- (c) inserting a gem stone from the bottom up into said gem stone housing;
- (d) inserting a cylindrical compression spring at a desired ~~location~~ depth commensurate for that particular stone in said gem housing cylindrical passage having a smooth cylindrical exterior surface and a diameter slightly larger than the interior of the cavity to provide a seat and ~~or~~ stop for the pavilion of the stone; and
- (e) providing at least one countersunk prong and bending the countersunk ~~prongs~~ prong toward the center of the gem housing ~~cavity~~ over the spring to a depth where the countersunk ~~prongs~~ prong ~~contact~~ contacts the cylindrical spring that in turn is in contact with the said stone, respective of the total crown to bottom of the spring distance to permanently set the stone.